

## Message Text

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47

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /057 W

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R 051730Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0920

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ROME 6459

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, IT, US

SUBJECT: POLITICAL REACTIONS TO ANNOUNCEMENT OF PRESIDENTIAL  
VISIT

1. DURING A MAJOR POLITICAL SPEECH IN ROME MAY 3, ITALIAN COMMUNIST PARTY (PCI) GENERAL SECRETARY ENRICO BERLINGUER OPENED PUBLIC DISCUSSION OF THE FORTHCOMING VISIT OF PRESIDENT FORD TO ITALY. AS REPORTED IN THE PRESS, BERLINGUER EXPRESSED A MEASURE OF SKEPTICISM ABOUT "THE REAL PURPOSE" OF THE PRESIDENT'S VISIT AND ABOUT THE ABILITY OF THE ITALIAN LEADERSHIP TO EXPLAIN THE REALITY OF THE ITALIAN SITUATION AND TO REPRESENT IN AN EFFECTIVE MANNER THE NATIONAL INTEREST. HE NOTED THAT THE PCI SUPPORTS THE IDEA OF A "COOPERATIVE RELATIONSHIP WITH THE UNITED STATES" BUT STRESSED THAT THE PARTY WILL DENOUNCE ANY EFFORTS TO USE THE VISIT FOR INTERNAL POLITICAL PURPOSES.

2. IN HARD HITTING SPEECH TO CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC (DC) ELECTORAL ASSEMBLY AT STRESA MAY 4, DC PARTY SECRETARY FANFANI DIRECTLY CHALLENGED BERLINGUER'S REMARKS. THE COMMUNIST LEADER, FANFANI SAID, "ASKED YESTERDAY WHAT PRESIDENT FORD IS COMING TO DO IN ITALY. WE DO NOT HAVE THIS CURIOSITY. INSTEAD WE ARE CONCERNED TO PROVE ALSO TO HIM, AS TO EVERY FRIEND AND ALLY, THAT THE ITALIAN PEOPLE ARE STILL DETERMINED NOT TO COMPROMISE THEIR OWN LIBERTY, GIVING WAY TO THE ENTICEMENTS OF THE SO-CALLED NEW COMMUNISM, WHICH -- IN TERMS

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OF ARTFULNESS AND ARROGANCE -- IS WORSE THAN THE OLD." VOLPE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, CHIEF OF STATE VISITS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 05 MAY 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Reference:** n/a  
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**Review Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
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**Review Date:** 04 JUN 2003  
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